

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are active in the present application.

Applicants submit that the application is now ready for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

--8. (Amended) The reagent as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that it is selected from the following sequences:.

- a fragment of 1505 nt amplified by the pair of primers SEQ ID NO: 37 and SEQ ID NO: 38 (primers G1F and G1R),

- a fragment of 2529 nt amplified by the pair of primers SEQ ID NO: 45 and SEQ ID NO: 46 (primers E1F and E1R),

- a fragment of 182 nucleotides, repeated twice, situated upstream of the *gag* domain at positions 2502-2611/2613-2865 of SEQ ID NO: 3,

and in that it is capable of being used as a probe.

9. (Amended) The reagent as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that it is chosen from the group consisting of the fragments encoding or not encoding all or part of enverin, in particular the fragments comprising at least 14 nucleotides and more particularly the fragments encoding the C-terminal portion of enverin, either from the amino acid 291 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or from the amino acid 321 of SEQ ID NO: 1, starting from the codon encoding the first methionine.--